

April 26, 1977

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SENATOR MILLS: Well to the first question Senator Koch, what was...the second one was abuses, what was the first one?

SENATOR KOCH: Okay, Senator Schmit said that this was a drastic change at this time, why is it so drastic?

SENATOR MILLS: Okay, well Senator Koch, I don't particularly agree with that. I don't think that it is so drastic any more than the proposed amendment which would allow a doubling of the wheat tax. I think that the two would be synonymous, I don't think one is more drastic than the other. Secondly, on the part of your question about abuses, I am not offering this amendment because of alleged abuses. There have been abuses Senator Koch, so I have been told. I am not saying that there are, I understand that there have been some trips that could have been in question using the wheat tax. However Senator Schmit has said that there are some meritable trips that members of our legislature who have even taken those. My amendment is really saying in effect what you have said that that farmer out there could decide by his action whether or not the Commission was doing their job.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, am I still on?

PRESIDENT: Yes.

SENATOR KOCH: I have one more remark that I would make and that is that I have to concur with Senator Mills that if the wheat grower is unhappy with some of the activities of the Commission, I believe that after they pay an original deposit that they should be entitled to a refund if they put it in writing and request it, then it should be granted.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Mills and Senator Koch, you know that there are many ways you can express your displeasure. Senator Koch I didn't hear the entire explanation. But, you indicate that if a wheat farmer doesn't like the programs of the Commission he can just get a refund. Well the same thing, I would be willing to go for the same thing on the school tax. If I could get a refund on my school tax, if I didn't like the way the...job they did with my kids, hell I would go along with this thing, see. But, we are not going to like that very good. It isn't going to work very good. We just take the best we like, we can get, and if we don't like the job the school board does and the teachers we go see the school board. That is what we are doing here. We are going to see the wheat board. We are going to see the Wheat Commission if you don't like it. If you hold your money up you know darn well what happens and here is where my labor friends take note, a whole bunch of guys ride free, you see. As a result the program goes down the tube, and then they say, hell it doesn't work. But, if you allow them to pay and then get the money back, there will always be those eventually who will take their money back and say, well they can get along without my five dollars, ten dollars or fifty dollars. We don't, I believe subscribe to the idea very often that the system is bad because someone is temporarily disconfuted about it. If you don't like the system you go out and talk to the Commission, that is the way it works. Again, I have visited with the wheat growers, I have visited with the members of the Commission and

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